

## BOOK REVIEWS

### Newton's A Handbook of the British Seaweeds<sup>1</sup>

Previously to the appearance of the attractive volume with the above title late in 1931, the last professedly complete descriptive account of the British marine algae was about sixty years old and thus failed to register the modern advances in the knowledge of the subject. The gap was bridged, however, by papers on the algae of restricted areas and of special groups and, in a more general way, by E. A. L. Batters' scholarly "A Catalogue of the British Marine Algae," published in 1902. It is stated in the preface of the present handbook that "about 260 genera and 750 species are described." Many of the species and apparently all of the genera are illustrated by excellent text-figures, mostly original.

There are full keys to the genera and species, the keys to the genera being directly under the four large groups, Myxophyceae, Chlorophyceae, Phaeophyceae, and Rhodophyceae, without the intervention of family names, which, however, appear in their proper places in the text. Kylin's segregations in the Delesseriaceae are recognized but not Kuckuck's in the Chordariaceae of Kjellman in the Engler & Prantl arrangement. Perhaps Kuckuck's posthumous work appeared too late (1929) for consideration. The nomenclature is, generally speaking, in accordance with the "International Rules." An exception would appear to be the use of Kützing's *Phyllitis*, a homonym of the generic name used by Underwood, Christensen, and others for the fern genus more commonly known as *Scolopendrium*. *Petalonia* of Derbes & Solier seems to be the legal name for Kützing's *Phyllitis*. The reviewer is pleased to see the original spelling *Elachistea* in place of "*Elachista*" of Engler & Prantl and De-Toni. He would have been equally pleased to see the original spelling *Lithothamnium*, now adopted by Mme. Lemoine and others, in place of the perhaps more familiar "*Lithothamnion*." It is of interest to note the suppression of *Actinococcus* Kütz. and *Sterrocolax* Schmitz, currently considered to be parasites

<sup>1</sup> Newton, Lily. A Handbook of the British Seaweeds. 8 vo. pp. i-xiii, 1-478. f. 1-270. 1931. The Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, S. W. 7, London. 15 shillings.

on other red algae, but now apparently proven to be parts of the life-cycle of the supposed hosts, as was assumed to be the case by the fathers of phycology. These discoveries the author attributes to Miss B. D. Gregory, but Dr. Kolderup-Rosenvinge had independently, and apparently at about the same time, reached similar conclusions. The author, by the way, is perhaps more widely known to phycologists as Dr. Lily Batten than as Professor Newton, but the passing of time is doubtless destined to popularize her later name. Most of the genera and probably most of the species of the British marine algae occur also on the northeastern coast of North America and Newton's Handbook will prove almost as useful to students of the marine algae in the eastern United States and Canada as in the British Isles.

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### Deam's Trees of Indiana

Eleven years ago I had the pleasure of reviewing in this journal Deam's authoritative and attractive book on this subject. Now the fourth edition<sup>1</sup> has appeared, which speaks well for the esteem in which it is held by the people of Indiana. The new edition is but little changed. The whole form of presentation is similar and the text in most cases identical; the plates are the same. A valuable new feature is the inclusion of maps showing the local distribution of almost every species. Four species and one minor form are newly admitted to the list of trees, and *Viburnum prunifolium* is excluded, apparently because it does not reach the form or stature of a tree. Nine changes in nomenclature were detected, some of which may cause confusion. *Quercus Michauxii* now becomes *Q. Prinus*, while the original *Q. Prinus* becomes *Q. montana*, *Quercus falcata* becomes *Q. rubra*, and the old *Q. rubra* is presented as *Q. borealis* var. *maxima*. More serious in my opinion are some of the changes in the common names, which are probably the ones actually used by nine tenths of the readers of the book. Hill's oak is changed to jack oak, but in my own western experience I have always heard that name applied to *Q. imbricaria*. *Carya cordiformis*, called pignut in the older edition, is now called bitternut hickory, and the name pignut is given to *Carya glabra*.

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<sup>1</sup> Deam, Charles C. Trees of Indiana. 326 pages, 140 plates, 118 maps. Published by the Department of Conservation, State of Indiana, 1932.